

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claim 1, 3, and 4 have been amended. No new subject matter has been added.

Claims 1-12 were allowed by the Notice of Allowance dated June 8, 2006. Upon reviewing the allowed claims as presented by the Examiner's Amendment accompanying the Notice of Allowance, a discrepancy was detected between the claims to which the Applicant had agreed during a May 9, 2006 Examiner interview, and the claims in the Examiner's Amendment. Applicants submitted an Amendment after allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. However, the Examiner contended the amendment changed the scope of the claims and did not approve entry of the amendment. The above amendment harmonizes the claims as allowed by the Examiner's Amendment and the language of the Examiner's Amendment to which Applicant did not agree.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "generating bids having bid values for one or more protocols among the plurality of protocols identified by the object-handle." As originally filed, claim 1 recited, "generating bids for one or more protocols." No subsequent amendment made to claim 1 during prosecution amended this language.

Applicants submit that this amendment does not modify the scope of the claims as presented in the Examiner's Amendment. Further, the above amendment merely returns the

relevant part of claim 1 to its original language. Such language was never rejected or objected to by the Examiner during prosecution.

In addition to the above-discussed amendment to claim 1, Applicants are herewith amending the dependencies of claims 3 and 4 to depend from claim 1.

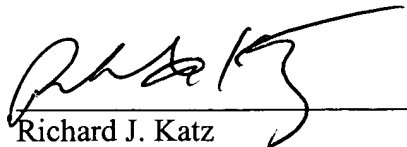
Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments do not add new matter, do not require a new search, and require no substantial new work by the Examiner or the Patent and Trademark Office.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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